

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 EUR-25 CEQ-02 EPA-04 OIC-04

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FM USMISION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2653

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECE, XG, SENV

SUBJECT: ECE-AD HOC MEETING ON DEVELOPMENT OF
LONG-TERM PROGRAM OF WORK ON ENVIRONMENT

REF: STATE 224166

1. MISOFF RAISED QUESTION OF UTILITY OF HOLDING SUBJECT MEETING WITH BISHOP. BISHOP SAID THAT HE WAS NOT SURPRISED AT OUR APPROACH ALTHOUGH WE WERE FIRST DELEGATION TO EXPRESS RESERVATIONS ABOUT THIS MEETING. HE SHARED OUR CONCERN THAT SOVIETS AND OTHER EE'S MIGHT NOT BE FORTHCOMING BUT SECRETARIAT FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS OF COMMISSION AND DID NOT DEEM IT APPROPRIATE TO MAKE SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHETHER MEETING SHOULD BE HELD.

2. BISHOP SAID THAT HE FELT MEETING IS DESIRABLE IN ORDER MAINTAIN MOMENTUM AND THAT CANCELLATION MIGHT HAVE ADVERSE EFFECT ON MEETING OF SENIOR ADVISERS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY. ON OTHER HAND, INCONCLUSIVE AD HOC MEETING COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT FUTURE WORK. SECRETARIAT DID NOT REQUIRE LONG-TERM WORK PROGRAM AND COULD OPERATE ON BASIS OF SHORT-TERM PROGRAMS ADOPTED AT EACH MEETING OF SENIOR ADVISERS.

3. BISHOP ALSO NOTED THAT AD HOC MEETING WAS TO CONSIDER AGENDA AND MANDATE AS WELL AS LONG-TERM WORK PROGRAM BUT
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HE DID NOT FEEL THESE MATTERS WERE ESSENTIAL BY THEMSELVES

TO CONVENE THE MEETING.

4. AT HIS SUGGESTION, BISHOP ARRANGED MEETING FOR MISOFF WITH STANOVNIK IN WHICH HE ALSO PARTICIPATED. STANOVNIK WAS FAMILIAR WITH SITUATION AND INDICATED SIMILAR CONCERN ABOUT AD HOC MEETING. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD ATTEMPT TO CONTACT ANANICHEV, SENIOR SOVIET ENVIRONMENT ADVISER, WHO DUE IN GENEVA NOVEMBER 19 IN ORDER TO ASCERTAIN SOVIET INTENTIONS FOR THIS MEETING.

5. MISOFF SUBSEQUENTLY CONTACTED SOVIET DELEGATION TO SEEK THEIR VIEWS BUT WAS INFORMED THAT ONLY ANANICHEV COULD PROVIDE DESIRED INFORMATION. ANANICHEV HAS BEEN DELAYED AND ARRIVAL IS UNCERTAIN AT THIS POINT.

6. SUBSEQUENT TO CONVERSATION REPORTED ABOVE, BISHOP CALLED TO REPORT THAT FRENCH AND UK DELS HAD ALSO APPROACHED STANOVNIK WITH POSITION ALONG LINES REFTTEL.

7. MISSION WILL REPORT FURTHER AS SOON AS STANOVNIK OBTAINS SOVIET VIEWS. BASSIN

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